

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## West Hartford announces first known death of a resident with COVID-19

West Hartford, CT (April 1, 2020) -- The Town of West Hartford announced today the death of a resident of West Hartford who had been diagnosed with COVID-19.

West Hartford-Bloomfield Health District Acting Director Aimee Krauss was saddened to hear of the death. The person was in 50-60 years old. "While not unexpected, it is nonetheless disheartening," she said.

Krauss emphasized, "COVID-19 can kill anyone, and you are at risk no matter what your age."

The Centers for Disease Control ("CDC") reports that while some people are at higher risk due to their age and medical conditions, there are increasing cases of younger people becoming seriously ill and dying from COVID-19 as well.

"Sadly, West Hartford has lost a resident who had been diagnosed with COVID-19. We extend our deepest condolences to the family and loved ones of this individual," said Mayor Shari Cantor. "Unfortunately, there will almost certainly be others. This should serve as a grave reminder to all residents of how deadly and dangerous this disease is. Anyone who doesn't follow the guidance of health officials is putting both their life and the lives of others at risk."

Town Manager Matt Hart said the Town would take all steps necessary to ensure that West Hartford businesses and residents are complying with directives from state and local officials, especially requirements to maintain social distance and not congregate in groups.

"The Town is conducting compliance checks on workplaces and outdoor spaces, and our uniformed police force is actively patrolling for violations and responding to complaints," said Hart.

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